

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:585
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2005
COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL TREATMENT
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to adopt an integrated approach towards imparting medical education blending Western and Indian System as well as Yoga to provide comprehensive medical treatment ;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the details of action plan for cultivating herbal plants on a large scale to meet domestic and external demands ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): The Government, at the instance of the department of ISM&H, had asked the Medical Council of India to consider the matter regarding inclusion of basic principle and concepts of Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Unani, Siddha and Yoga in the course contents of MBBS. After considering the matter, in consultation with principles of all the medical colleges in India, the MCI came to the conclusion that inclusion of the basic principles and concept of ISM&H in MBBS course may only lead to acquiring inadequate knowledge of these systems by MBBS students which may be misused for practice in those systems by the allopathic doctors and accordingly not recommended the proposal. However, the matter has again been referred back to MCI for reconsideration and response from MCI is awaited.

(c) Government of India has set up National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) in the year of 2000 on the recommendation of the Task Force constituted by Planning Commission NMPB has sanctioned a number of project during the last four years for the cultivation of medicinal plants throughout the country. Till date 32 State Medicinal Plants Board (SMPBs) has also been set up in 27 States and 5 UTs. The Board gives 30% subsidy for cultivation of medicinal plants. The scheme has been introduced to ensure the availability of raw material for manufacturing of herbal medicines and to meet the domestic as well as external demands.